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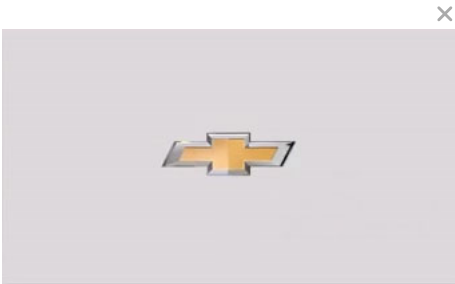
Company temporarily withdraws application for carbon sequestration pipeline

Ben Singson, Reporter
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Navigator CO2 has temporarily halted building its Heartland Greenway carbon dioxide pipeline in Illinois.
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A planned carbon-sequestration pipeline that would go through much of west-central Illinois is on hold, at least temporarily.



Navigator CO2 has filed a [motion](#) with the Illinois Commerce Commission to withdraw its application for a certificate of authority to build its Heartland Greenway carbon dioxide pipeline.

The proposed 1,300-mile-long pipeline would start in Iowa and capture carbon dioxide from producers along its route, converting it to a liquid form. It would run 5 feet under 13 Illinois counties — including Morgan, Scott, Brown, Schuyler and Pike — and end by pumping the carbon dioxide into a 1-mile-deep sequestration site in Christian County.

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The Heartland Greenway has been met with resistance from [Illinois activists](#), who oppose it on the grounds of safety, land use and environmental effects. Some have said they fear a similar situation to the February 2020 gas leak in Satartia, Mississippi, which hospitalized dozens and left many with [symptoms](#) that continue to this day.



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Multiple local governments have filed resolutions, moratoriums or petitions to intervene regarding the Heartland Greenway, including Christian, Sangamon and Morgan counties. Members of the [Coalition to Stop CO2 Pipelines](#) previously told Morgan County commissioners in July that more than 175 homes in northern Bethel and Chapin would be within 1 mile of the pipeline. Commissioners unanimously approved a resolution in November against the use of [eminent domain](#) to build the pipeline.

In the filing to withdraw, Navigator said it intends to submit another application to the state commission in February. The company also said a new permit would allow it to "accelerate the development of additional permanent storage locations across multiple counties in central Illinois."

"With the increasing number of shippers participating in the Heartland Greenway and landowners' collaborative and responsive feedback," CEO Matt Vining said, "refiling allows us to streamline the application process in Illinois for all parties."

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Hannah Lee Flath, communications coordinator with coalition member Sierra Club, said she is proud of the work done by landowners along the Heartland Greenway's proposed route in voicing their opposition to the pipeline.

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"This is a victory for them," she said. "This is evidence that Navigator hasn't made the progress that it had hoped to make and has not been able to obtain the easements that they need for a sequestration site and is sort of scrambling to figure out a different pathway, essentially."

Flath said she would be surprised if Navigator were able to submit another application by next month, because performing the necessary surveys and getting easements to find other spots for sequestration sites would be "a heavy ask." The coalition will continue to reach out to landowners between now and February, she said, and are prepared to intervene if the company refiles.

Written By
Ben Singson

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